



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES
Provider Supports Subcommittee
Agency Updates
June 14, 2023

Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) Updates

Licensed Center Provider Subsidy Rate Increase Effective July 1, 2023

The Washington State Legislature has increased child care subsidy rates beginning July 1, 2023. Authorizations will be updated automatically. July 2023 invoices will reflect these changes.

The new half-day and full-day rates, effective July 1, 2023, are accessible at the following links:

[Subsidy Information | Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families.](#)

Additionally, the Non-Standard Hours Bonus (NSHB) will increase to \$135 per month, effective July 1, 2023. This will be changed automatically and will be included on your July invoice.

If you have questions, please call 1-800-394-4571, or email providerhelp@dcyf.wa.gov.

Now Open: Early Childhood Equity Grant - Apply Now

The Early Childhood Equity Grant application is now available. This grant is intended to serve as a step toward expanding access to early learning statewide and transforming.

Washington's early learning system to make it more inclusive and equitable. The grant will support inclusive and culturally and linguistically specific early learning and early childhood and parent support programs across the state.

Who is Eligible to Apply?

- Licensed, certified, or certified for payment only child care providers with an open license in good standing.
- License-exempt Family, Friend, and Neighbor (FFN) providers serving children receiving state subsidies.
- Licensed ECEAP/Early ECEAP sites
- ECEAP/Early ECEAP contractors
- Play and Learn Group Host Organizations recognized by Child Care Aware of Washington (CCA of WA) and currently receive funding and/or direct programming support from CCA of WA to actively provide direct and virtual education and materials to parents and FFN caregivers. This is the result of a contractual agreement between CCA of WA and the State of Washington and applies to Play and Learn Groups.

[Learn more about how to apply.](#)

If you have questions about the application, the timeline of the funding, or other questions specific to the Early Childhood Equity Grant, email dcyf.childcaregrants@dcyf.wa.gov.

Licensed Family Home Subsidy Rate Increase Effective July 1, 2023

In accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) 925, subsidy rates will increase, effective July 1, 2023. Authorizations will be updated automatically. July invoices will reflect the changes in daily rates. Authorizations will continue as monthly units.

The new half-day, full-day, and school-age monthly base rates beginning July 1, 2023, are accessible at the following link: [Subsidy Information | Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families](#).

The monthly Cost-of-Care Rate Enhancement will increase from \$2,000 to \$2,100 per month, effective July 1, 2023. The first payment for this month of service will be made in September 2023.

Additionally, the Washington State Legislature increased the Non-Standard Hours Bonus (NSHB) to \$135 per month, effective July 1, 2023. This will be changed automatically and will be included on your July invoice.

If you have questions, please call 1-800-394-4571, or email providerhelp@dcyf.wa.gov.

New Family Guide to the Three-Pronged Approach

A new one-page informational flyer for families, explaining vision and hearing screening with the Three-Pronged Approach, is now available. Translations of the flyer into several languages will be available shortly.

Access [this flyer](#), and other Three-Pronged Approach resources, on the [Practice Guidance page](#) of the ESIT website, under the *Blind/Low Vision and Deaf/Hard of Hearing Resources* dropdown.

Free Workshops from Infant Early Childhood Mental Health - Workforce Collaborative

Workshops offered by the Infant Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH) Workforce Collaborative are free for professionals who serve or support children prenatal to five and their families enrolled in Apple Health (Medicaid).

IECMH Clinical Workshops are designed for clinical professionals involved in mental health assessment and diagnosis for children birth to five.

IECMH Community Workshops are intended for all professionals who support the social-emotional well-being of babies, toddlers, preschoolers, and their families, as well as expecting families.

For more information visit [IECMHTrainingEvents\(wa-aimh.org\)](https://www.wa-aimh.org). CEUs and/or STARS hours are provided for most workshops. Questions? Contact admin@wa-aimh.org.

ONB Rules Announcement

We are excited to announce that Outdoor Nature-Based child care rules, WAC 110-302, will go into effect May 31, 2023. DCYF, Tribal partners, Outdoor Nature-Based learning programs, and stakeholders have been on a journey for the past few years to license outdoor programs successfully.

These programs are vital to the learning and development of children in Washington state and add another child care option for families. Outdoor Nature-Based programs offer safe outdoor spaces for children to take appropriate risks, while they explore and learn about the incredible environments and ecosystems that surround them across our state.

To learn more about Outdoor Nature-Based child care, please [visit **Outdoor Nature-Based Child Care Programs | Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families**](#). For questions regarding licensing Outdoor Nature-Based programs, please reach out to: dcyf.outdoornaturebasedchildcare@dcyf.wa.gov.